GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:323
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2017
Increase in Unemployment
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether unemployment is increasing in the country due to the decline in productivity;
(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN AFFAIRS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 323 FOR ANSWER ON 09.08.2017 FROM SHRI V. ELUMALAI REGARDING "INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT".

(a) to (c): The average GDP growth rate of 7.5% per year during the last three years suggests increase in productivity of enterprises as also increased employment opportunities in the country. However, the existing datasets which suffer from time lag, limited scope and coverage do not capture the changes in complexities of labour market trends on either annual, half-yearly or quarterly basis. To improve the availability of regular data a Task Force was set up under the Chairmanship of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. The report which is in public domain for comments recommends

â€¢ Conduct of Annual household surveys and a time-use survey;
â€¢ Annual Enterprise Survey using enterprises registered with the Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN);
â€¢ Administrative data from various government schemes that create jobs and can be potentially exploited to collect data on certain category of workers.

The Government through various targeted programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana, Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) and National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM), Startup India, Standup India is stimulating creation of wage/self-employment. Programmes such as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Yuva Yojana are enhancing the employability of the labour force to access job opportunities. Besides these initiatives, flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Projects, Housing for All, Infrastructure development, Industrial corridors, Sagar Mala and major reforms like Goods &Services Tax have the potential to generate productive employment opportunities.

Direct intervention schemes such as the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) wherein Government reimburses 25 percent of the stipend payable to apprentices enhances employability of the youth to access employment. Further, Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) incentivizes industry to promote employment generation wherein Government reimburses employer's contribution of 8.33% EPS made to new employees.

Besides this, the National Career Service (NCS) portal also provides a nation-wide online platform for jobseekers and employers for job matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner.